

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated March 11, 2004. Appreciation is expressed to the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 17-19 and 26.

By the present Amendment, a new Abstract has been provided, as required in paragraph two of the Office Action. In addition, the independent claims 1 and 12 have each been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter from claim 17. Independent claim 23 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter from claim 26. All other claims in the application depend either directly or indirectly from one of claims 1, 12 and 23. Accordingly, in light of the fact that each of the independent claims now contains subject matter as indicated as being allowable in the Office Action, reconsideration and allowance of independent claims 1, 12, and 23, together with their dependent claims, is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that there are any other points which may be clarified or otherwise disposed of either by telephone discussion or by personal interview, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of

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this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Docket No. 500.39919X00), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By



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APPENDIX A